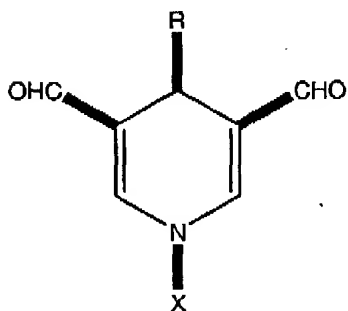


Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-22 (Canceled).

23. A method of detecting the presence of alcohol liver disease comprising: collecting a biological sample of serum, plasma or urine; and assaying for the presence of a hybrid malondialdehyde-acetaldehyde (MAA) protein adduct, said adduct having the following formula:



wherein X is a peptide or protein containing an active lysine residue; and R is selected from the group consisting of a lower C₁ to C₆ alkyl group, benzyl and hydrogen, wherein increased MAA protein adduct, when compared against levels in a person not suffering from alcohol liver disease, is associated with alcohol liver disease.

Claim 24 (Canceled).

2
Claim 25 (Currently amended): The method of claim 23 wherein said method of detection is by fluorescence detection at 397 nm.

Copy of Allowed Claims

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Claim ~~26~~ (Previously presented): The method of claim ~~23~~¹ wherein said detection is by an immunoassay comprising an antibody which recognizes a MAA epitope, said antibody being a monoclonal or polyclonal antibody.